

business meetings were held, presided over by the Right Rev. Dr. Courtney, Bishop of the diocese. On the 23rd, the subjects discussed were, "The Missionary Work of the Church Essential to its Life" and "Diocesan Missionary Organization," the former of which was led by Rev. Dyson Hague, rector of St. Paul's Church, Halifax; Rev. E. A. Harris, incumbent of Mahone Bay; and Charles S. Wilcox, Esq., of Windsor, while the latter was presented and elucidated by Rev. E. P. Crawford, rector of St. Luke's Cathedral, Halifax; Rev. V. E. Harris, rector of Amherst; and Rev. S. Gibbons, incumbent of Parrsboro.

In the evening of the 23rd, a large public missionary meeting was held in Association (Y.M.C.) Hall. The speakers were the Rev. J. Simpson, rector of St. Peter's, Charlottetown; Rev. Dr. Mockridge, secretary of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Church of England in Canada; and Rev. G. D. Harris, incumbent of La Have. Mr. Simpson spoke for diocesan missions, in which he described his own Province of Prince Edward Island as a much-neglected spot, having great responsibilities and but few privileges. Dr. Mockridge described the domestic field of Canada, and showed by incidents in its past history that it was full of illustrations of hard work and unflinching zeal on the part of those who labored in it in days gone by, and of those also who are still at their posts of duty. Mr. Harris read a thoughtful paper on foreign mission work, and the Bishop closed with one of his characteristic speeches from the chair, a speech full of good advice and practical suggestions, mingled here and there with an appropriate anecdote and touches of humor. The people of Truro turned out well to this meeting, and were much interested in it.

The 24th of October was taken up with the discussion of the questions, "Woman's Work in Aid of the Missionary Cause," led by the Right Rev. Chairman, Rev. F. Wilkinson, rector of Dartmouth, and Rev. W. C. Wilson, of Spring Hill Mines, and "What other Bodies of Christians are Doing in Missionary Work," introduced by Rev. F. H. Almon, rector of Trinity Church, Halifax, and Rev. W. J. Ancient, of Londonderry, (N.S.).

The former of these subjects raised the question as to the formation of a Woman's Auxiliary for Nova Scotia, the advisability of which was urged by Rev. Dr. Mockridge, Rev. E. P. Crawford, and others. The Bishop, however, while expressing the warmest admiration for the work of the Woman's Auxiliary both in Canada and the United States, thought that the time for its formation had hardly yet arrived for Nova Scotia.

The latter question brought out some comparisons between the Church and other religious bodies somewhat to the disparagement of the former, as far as Canada is concerned; but it was pointed out that the missionary work done by the Anglican Church throughout the world is second to none on earth.

The conference was conducted on the principles of the Church Congresses, speeches being brought to a termination by the inexorable bell of the chairman, which was no respecter of persons.

The proceedings closed on the evening of the 24th, by a beautiful service in the church and a sermon of eloquence and power by the Bishop, who, for the space of one hour, held the interest and attention of all present, while he showed by a series of rapid sketches something of the work done in the mission field during the last hundred years. Thus ended a Church gathering concerning which all that were present could not help saying "it was good to have been there," and went home resolved in most cases, if not in all, to do more for missions, in parish and home, than they had ever done before.

MISSIONARY INTEREST.

What is needed in many of our congregations is the study of foreign missions. The apathy too often displayed is due, to a great extent, to want of knowledge as to what is going on. Would it not be well for the various parish guilds or associations to devote a portion of their time, at least, each month to the consideration of missions? Once a month, for instance, might not some story from the mission field be told to the children, and their offerings for the particular Sunday chosen (the first, second, third, or last, as the case might be) devoted to some missionary object or to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society? The Brotherhood of St. Andrew also might have a missionary evening once a month with great profit to the members and much advantage also to the field itself in distant lands. The same may be said of all the other parochial associations. In this way missionary objects would constantly be kept before the members of the congregations, and much advantage gained for the work itself. Some months ago, the Bishop of London urged upon the clergy of his diocese the study of foreign missions. He did so on the ground that many people do not know that missions have a place at all in the work of the Church. In point of fact, they should occupy the very front of all Church work. The result would soon tell for good upon all departments of Christian enterprise. To spend money profusely upon the services of the Church is a worthy object, but its worthiness must be diminished if it becomes the exclusive or even the chief work of a congregation. The vicar of St. Peter's, London Docks, struck a true chord when he said in a recent letter to his parishioners: "We want in these days, I venture to think, less attention paid to the decoration of our churches, and more to the sustenance of the real work. Surely the best